

IHO Files No. S3/8151/MSDIWG

**CIRCULAR LETTER 56/2019**  
**20 November 2019**

## MARINE SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURES (MSDI) QUESTIONNAIRE

Reference:

- A. IHO CL 56/2015 dated 6 August - *Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI) Questionnaire*
- B. IHO CL 42/2016 dated 5 September - *Outcome of the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC8)*
- C. IHO CL 45/2019 dated 25 September - *Outcome of the 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC11)*
- D. IHO CL 20/2019 dated 28 March - *The IHO Online Form System for Responses to Circular Letters and Input to IHO Publications (P-5 and C-55)*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. A survey, conducted in accordance with Reference A, was prepared by the Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS) with the support from the Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures (MSDI) Working Group (MSDIWG) to inform the IHO on the worldwide status of MSDI. The results of the survey were presented to the International Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC) at its 8<sup>th</sup> meeting in May 2016 (Reference B).
2. As reported in Reference C, the IRCC11 approved amendments to the MSDIWG Terms of Reference (ToR) and Rules of Procedures (RoP), tasking the Working Group (WG) to support the MSDI and Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) related activities of the IHO. In order to achieve its objective, the WG is expected to monitor national SDI activities and trends, follow the development in MSP implementation worldwide and establish a list of relevant contact points.
3. In order to implement these tasks through an update on the worldwide status, the MSDIWG has again prepared a questionnaire to survey the maturity level of Member States with respect to MSDI and MSP and to collect other relevant information.
4. Member States are invited to complete the questionnaire (Annex A) and return it to the IHO Secretariat at their earliest convenience and **no later than 24 January 2020** by email ([cl-ic@iho.int](mailto:cl-ic@iho.int)) or by fax (+377 93 10 81 40), but preferably using the IHO Online Form System (see Reference D) by accessing the following link:  
[https://iho.formstack.com/forms/cl\\_56\\_2019](https://iho.formstack.com/forms/cl_56_2019)
5. The results of the survey will be reviewed by the MSDIWG at its 11<sup>th</sup> meeting in Rostock, Germany, to be held from 24 to 26 February 2020 and reported to the IRCC12 meeting in June 2020.

On behalf of the Secretary-General  
Yours sincerely,



Mustafa IPTES  
Director

Annex: Status and update of MSDI and Implementations related to MSP

## Status and update of Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI) and Implementations related to Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)

(to be returned to the IHO Secretariat by 24 January 2020, Email: [cl-lc@iho.int](mailto:cl-lc@iho.int) - Fax: +37793108140, preferably via the IHO Online Form System, Reference D, by accessing the following link: [https://iho.formstack.com/forms/cl\\_56\\_2019](https://iho.formstack.com/forms/cl_56_2019))

Member State: \_\_\_\_\_

The intent of this questionnaire is to determine the relative level of advancement of various countries in the development of their MSDI and MSP implementation. It also explores what is offered and what can be offered from a user perspective.

Question	Answer
<b>General</b>	
Please provide your name and email.	
Name of organization.	
<b>Identification of the Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures (MSDI)</b>	
Is there a MSDI established in your country?	Dropdown: Yes, No
<b>If yes, fill in the questions below</b>	
If a MSDI is established, please describe in which way it is established	Dropdown: By a dedicated law, Into the national SDI law, By the tasks of the organization, Other
If other, please specify:	
Name of the organization responsible for the national MSDI.	
Website of the organization responsible for the national MSDI.	
Name of national MSDI contact point.	
Email address of national MSDI contact point.	
Funding model for your organization.	Dropdown: Funded by the organization, Shared among agencies, Other
If other, please specify:	
Nature of the funding for the MSDI.	Dropdown: Government (other than Defense), Government (Defense), Other
If other, please specify:	
Name of the Hydrographic Office MSDI contact point.	
Email of the Hydrographic Office MSDI contact point and email address.	
If available, please provide the website to the national MSDI.	
Any other information.	

Question	Answer
<b>Identification of the Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)</b>	
Is there a MSP established in your country?	Dropdown: Yes, No
<b>If yes</b>	
If a MSP is established, please describe in which way it is established.	Dropdown: Dedicated law, Application of a regional directive (e.g. EU regulation/directive), Tasks of the Organization, Other
If other, please specify:	
Name of the organization responsible for the national MSP.	
Website of the organization responsible for the national MSP.	
Name of the national MSP contact point.	
Email of the national MSP contact point.	
Funding model for the national MSP.	Dropdown: Funded by the organization, Shared among agencies, Other
If other, please specify:	
Nature of the funding for the MSP.	Dropdown: Government (other than Defense), Government (Defense), Other
If other, please specify:	
If available, please provide the website to the national MSP.	
Please describe the connection between the MSDI and MSP.	
<b>Audience</b>	
Who are target users of the MSDI?	Dropdown: Senior Management, Operational Management, Public Use, Academia, Private Sector, Specific Users (such as mariners), All of the above, Other
If other, please specify:	
Is the MSDI available to the public or is access restricted to a select community?	Dropdown: Public, Restricted, Combined, Other
If other, please specify:	
Who are target users of the MSP?	Dropdown: Senior Management, Operational Management, Public Use, Academia, Private Sector, Specific Users (such as mariners), All of the above, Other
If other, please specify:	
Is the MSP available to the public or is	Dropdown:

Question	Answer
access restricted to a select community?	Public, Restricted, Combined, Other
If other, please specify:	
<b>Policies associated with MSDI and MSP and key purpose or objectives</b>	
Is the MSDI in development or is it operational?	Dropdown: Operational, Development
Describe the governing policies of the MSDI.	
Is the MSP in development or is it operational?	Dropdown: Operational, Development
Describe the governing policies of the MSP. (e.g. policies related to public access, sales, support for a service such as navigation, financial model etc.)	
Please describe the coordination/cooperation between the MSDI and MSP.	
<b>Support Usage</b>	
What are the main applications of your MSDI?	Dropdown: Portal, Web map service, Web feature service, Web catalog service, Web coverage service, Other
If other, please specify:	
<b>MSDI Standards Oriented Questions</b>	
Describe the standards used in the MSDI.	
Describe the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) standards that are supported (e.g. S-57, S-100 series, etc.)	
<b>Data</b>	
Please describe the hydrographic datasets in the MSDI.	
Please describe the hydrographic datasets in the MSP.	
<b>Future Plans</b>	
Please describe the plans for the continued use or development of the MSDI.	
Concerning MSDI, what were the challenges you faced and what lessons have you learned?	
<b>Other comments</b>	
Please provide any additional comment you feel applicable.	